

### **REMARKS**

In response to the Office Action mailed September 20, 2007, the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the above amendments and consider the following remarks. Claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-22 have been amended to more clearly describe exemplary embodiments of the invention and remain pending in the application. The Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration of the application in light of the amendments and accompanying remarks.

#### **Rejection of Claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-22 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)**

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakao. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The Applicant has amended the claims in order to more clearly describe an exemplary embodiment of a rail component. Nakao, on the other hand, is directed to a composition for gaskets. Nakao does not teach or even suggest a rail component. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that Nakao cannot support the rejection of claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-22 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

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Amendment transmitted December 20, 2007  
Re: Office Action mailed September 20, 2007

Conclusion

The Applicant has distinguished claims 1-3, 5-16, and 18-22 over the cited reference. Therefore, the Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 20, 2007

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